REMARKS

Applicants and their representative, Mr. Frank Occhiuti, wish to thank Examiner Chu for the helpful and courteous interview conducted on August 11, 2004. We agree with the Examiner's description of the substance of the interview as set forth in the Interview Summary form (PTOL-413) provided by Examiner Chu at the end of the interview.

We have amended the specification at page 21, line 23 to correct a grammatical error. We have also amended independent claim 1 to provide a clearer recitation of the invention sought to be protected. Support for the amendments can be found at page 21, lines 14-29 of applicants' specification and Fig. 3.

Prior Art Rejections

Claims 1-8 were rejected as being anticipated by Tsukihashi (U.S. Patent 6,684,053). Applicant traverses these rejections.

Independent Claims 1, 7, and 8

We submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a data recorder including a clock generator that suspends providing the system clock to the encoder until the decoding catches up with the encoding, when the decoding of the decoder is delayed from the encoding of the encoder, as recited in amended independent claim 1. We further submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a method for controlling interruption and restart of writing data to a recording medium including suspending the generation of second encoded data when reproduction data is delayed from the second encoded data and restarting the recording of data at the moment the reproduction data and the second encoded data reach the data at which the writing of data was interrupted, as recited in independent claim 7. We also submit that Tsukihashi does not disclose a method for controlling interruption and restart of writing data to a recording medium including suspending the generation of recording data when reproduction data is delayed from the recording data, restarting the generation of the recording data when the delayed reproduction data catches up with the recording data, and restarting the recording of data at the moment the reproduction data

and the recording data reach the data at which the writing of data was interrupted, as recited in independent claim 8.

Although Tsukihashi discloses synchronizing encoding and decoding, he does not disclose how to synchronize the encoding and the decoding when the decoding is delayed from the encoding.

In contrast, in embodiments of applicants' inventions, the system clock to the encoder is suspended until the decoding catches up with the encoding. Advantageously, by suspending providing the system clock to the encoder, the encoder can receive data from a buffer memory by precisely and instantaneously specifying a data location using an address for the data. However, the decoder does not need to instantaneously receive data read from a recording medium using a pickup because the pickup does not precisely move to a data location on a recording medium when being affected by disturbance, such as vibration.

We further submit that because claims 2-6 depends from independent claim 1, these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable.

Enclosed is a $450.00 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee (2 months, large entity). Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket Number 10449-031001.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 29, 2004

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